

WE CLAIM:

1. A method of configuring a plurality of holes for playing a game on a course over at least one course-playing route, the method comprising:
providing a plurality of holes having predetermined shapes;
providing a plurality of putting greens having predetermined shapes;
locating a hole on the course, the hole selected from the plurality of holes;
and
locating a putting green on the course, the putting green selected for use with the selected hole.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of putting greens are provided with a predetermined association with a respective plurality of playing areas.
3. The method of claim 2, at least one of the plurality of playing areas comprising at least one area selected from the group of a mounded area, a hazard area and a chipping area.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein at least one of the respective plurality of playing areas is sized to fit substantially within a putting green area of a hole.
5. The method of claim 1, the step of locating a putting green on the course comprising:
locating the putting green based on an approach portion of a course-playing route, the route defined by a direction between a tee box of the hole and a location of the putting green when used with the selected hole.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing at least one pair of holes configured with opposing arcuate fairway portions.

7. The method of claim 6 further comprising:
locating the pair of holes on the course to form an open area there between to contain a body of water of sufficient size for irrigating a portion of the course.

8. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing a predetermined association between a putting green and a hole.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the predetermined association between the putting green and the hole is based on an approach portion of a course-playing route, the course-playing route defined by a direction between a tee box of a selected hole and a location of the putting green when used with the selected hole.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the predetermined association between the putting green and the hole is based on a configuration of a putting surface of the putting green.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing at least one hole with a predetermined irrigation layout.

12. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
providing at least one hole with a predetermined lighting configuration.

13. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

locating a plurality of holes on the course to define a course-playing route for playing the game along at least one of two sequential holes having substantially coaxial longitudinal axes and two sequential holes having substantially parallel longitudinal axes.

14. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing the hole with a predetermined placement of at least one tee box.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising:

providing the hole with a predetermined placement of a short tee box, a medium tee box and a long tee box wherein each of the respective tee boxes is located a different distance from the putting green than the other tee boxes.

16. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

locating a plurality of holes on the course so that an outer boundary of the plurality of holes defines a substantially rectangular configuration.

17. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing each of the plurality of holes with a plurality of color-coded tee boxes wherein a respective plurality of course-playing routes are defined by respective ones of the plurality of color-coded tee boxes having the same color.

18. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

providing at least one putting green with a three dimensional target having a width and a height substantially greater than the width; and

providing a target attachment material affixed to the three dimensional target.

19. The method of claim 18 further comprising:

providing at least one hole with a tee box; and

providing a mat and tee assembly for supporting a ball on the tee box.

20. The method of claim 18 further comprising:

providing a cushion between the three dimensional target and the target attachment material.

21. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

locating a grandstand proximate at least one of the plurality of holes; and

locating a plurality of manikins in the grandstand.

22. A course layout for playing a game, the course layout comprising:

a plurality of holes configured with respect to one another so that respective longitudinal axes of at least two holes are substantially parallel wherein play of the game on a first one of the at least two holes proceeds along a first direction and play on the second one of the at least two holes proceeds along a direction substantially opposite from the first direction.

23. The course layout of claim 22 wherein the plurality of holes are further configured with respect to one another so that respective longitudinal axes of at least two holes are substantially coaxial wherein play of the game on a first one and a second one of the at least two holes proceeds along substantially the same direction.

24. The course layout of claim 22 wherein the plurality of holes are further configured with respect to one another so that a longitudinal axis of a first hole is substantially perpendicular with a longitudinal axis of a second hole.

25. The course layout of claim 22 wherein the plurality of holes are further configured with respect to one another so that a direction for playing the game over a plurality of holes proceeds along at least two pairs of contiguous holes wherein respective longitudinal axes of each pair of contiguous holes are substantially coaxial.

26. The course layout of claim 25 wherein the direction for playing the game over a plurality of holes proceeds along a first pair of contiguous holes in a first substantially linear direction and a second pair of contiguous holes in a substantially linear direction that is substantially opposite the first direction.

27. The course layout of claim 22, at least one of the holes comprising:
a preselected putting green; and
a plurality of tee boxes positioned in relation to one another to define a respective plurality of course-playing routes from each respective tee box to the putting green.

28. The course layout of claim 22, at least one of the holes comprising:
a predetermined irrigation layout.

29. The course layout of claim 22, at least one of the holes comprising:
a predetermined lighting layout.

30. The course layout of claim 22, at least one of the plurality of holes comprising:

a putting green selected from a plurality of putting greens each having a predetermined shape and size;

a plurality of tee boxes positioned in relation to one another to define a respective plurality of course-playing routes from each respective tee box to a respective putting green;

a predetermined irrigation layout; and

a predetermined lighting layout.

31. The course layout of claim 22, at least one of the plurality of holes comprising:

- a playing area;
- a mounded area;
- a hazard;
- an approach area; and
- a chipping area.

32. The course layout of claim 22, each of the plurality of holes comprising:

- a putting green selected from a plurality of putting greens each having a predetermined shape and size;

- a plurality of tee boxes positioned in relation to one another to define a respective plurality of course-playing routes from each respective tee box to a respective putting green;

- a predetermined irrigation layout;
- a predetermined lighting layout; and
- a playing area comprising:
 - a mounded area having a predetermined size and shape;
 - a hazard area having a predetermined size and shape;
 - an approach area having a predetermined configuration; and
 - a chipping area having a predetermined configuration.

33. The course layout of claim 22 further comprising:

- a plurality of color-coded tee boxes defining a plurality of course-playing routes among the plurality of holes.

34. The course layout of claim 22 further comprising:
a plurality of tee boxes positioned on a hole to define a respective plurality of course-playing routes between each respective tee box and a putting green of the hole and wherein each of the tee boxes is covered with a different colored synthetic material.

35. The course layout of claim 22 further comprising:
at least one preselected putting green;
a three dimensional target having a width and a height substantially greater than the width, the three dimensional target placed on the putting green;
and
a target attachment material affixed to the three dimensional target.

36. The course layout of claim 35 further comprising:
at least one a tee box; and
a mat and tee assembly for supporting a ball on the tee box.

37. The course layout of claim 35 further comprising:
a cushion between the three dimensional target and the target attachment material.

38. The course layout of claim 35 further comprising:
a grandstand proximate a hole; and
a plurality of manikins in the grandstand.

39. A course for playing a game, the course comprising:
a plurality of hole corridors configured to define a grid wherein respective longitudinal axes of at least two hole corridors are substantially parallel, at least one of the hole corridors comprising;
a fairway;

a putting green selected from a plurality of putting greens having respective predetermined shapes and sizes; and

a plurality of tee boxes defining a respective plurality of course-playing routes from respective ones of the tee boxes to the putting green.

40. The course of claim 41 further comprising:

a recreational area comprising at least one facility selected from the group of a soccer field, a softball field, a volleyball court, a swimming pool and a set of batting cages.

41. The course of claim 40 wherein the grid and the recreational area are contained within an area of approximately 50 acres.

42. The course of claim 39 further comprising:

at least two hole corridors having respective longitudinal axes that are substantially coaxial; and

at least two hole corridors having respective longitudinal axes that are substantially parallel.

43. The course of claim 42 further comprising:

at least one hole corridor having a longitudinal axis that is substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of a hole corridor defining the grid.

44. The course of claim 39 further comprising:

a predetermined irrigation layout within at least one hole corridor.

45. The course of claim 44 further comprising:

a predetermined lighting configuration with the corridor.

46. The course of claim 39 further comprising:
a three dimensional target having a width and a height substantially greater than the width, the three dimensional target attached to the putting green;
and
a target attachment material affixed to the three dimensional target.

47. The course of claim 46 further comprising:
a mat and tee assembly on at least one of the plurality of tee boxes for supporting a ball on the tee box.

48. The course of claim 47 further comprising:
a cushion between the three dimensional target and the target attachment material.

49. The course of claim 46 wherein a physical characteristic of the putting green and a direction of playing the game along one of the course-playing routes have a predetermined association.

50. The course of claim 39 further comprising:
a respective plurality of holes contained within respective ones of the plurality of hole corridors wherein at least one of the plurality of holes is selected from a plurality of holes having a predetermined shape and size.

51. The course of claim 50 further comprising:
a predetermined irrigation layout and a predetermined lighting configuration.

52. A scoring method for playing a game on a course comprising at least one hole wherein a plurality of course-playing routes are defined between a respective plurality of tee boxes and at least one putting green, the scoring method comprising:

selecting a course-playing route for playing the game;
determining a target score for the course-playing route;
hitting a ball with a club to propel the ball from a tee box on the course-playing route to a three-dimensional target removably attached to a putting green on the course-playing route;
determining a score by counting a number of times the ball is hit to propel the ball from the tee box until the ball contacts the three-dimensional target; and
calculating a differential between the score and the target score.

53. The scoring method of claim 52 further comprising:
determining a distance assessment level for a player.

54. The scoring method of claim 53, the step of determining a distance assessment level for a player comprising:
calculating an average distance the player hits a ball using a club.

55. The scoring method of claim 53 further comprising:
determining a target score for the player based on the player's distance assessment level.

56. The scoring method of claim 55 further comprising:
determining a differential for the player; and
determining a competitive rating for the player based on the player's target score and the differential for the player.

57. The scoring method of claim 52 further comprising:
determining a climatic difficulty factor; and
determining a daily target score based on the target score for the course-playing route and the climatic difficulty factor.

58. The scoring method of claim 52, the selected course-playing route comprising a plurality of holes wherein at least two of the plurality of holes have respective longitudinal axes that are substantially coaxial and at least two of the plurality of holes have respective longitudinal axes that are substantially parallel.

59. The scoring method of claim 58 wherein the selected course-playing route is defined by respective ones of the plurality of tee boxes having a same color-coded synthetic surface.

60. The scoring method of claim 52 further comprising:
determining a plurality of target scores for a course-playing route;
associating the plurality of target scores with a plurality of distance assessment levels so that a player may determine a target score based on a distance assessment level determined for the player.

61. The scoring method of claim 60 further comprising:
determining a competitive rating for the player based on the target score determined for the player.

62. The scoring method of claim 60 further comprising:
associating the plurality of target scores with a respective plurality of levels used to determine a competitive rating for a player;
determining at least one class differential range for at least one of the respective plurality of levels used to determine a competitive rating for a player;
and
determining a competitive rating for a player based on a target score determined for the player and a differential calculated for the player after playing the game on a course-playing route.

63. The scoring method of claim 52 further comprising:
determining a plurality of target scores for a course-playing route;
associating the plurality of target scores with a plurality of distance assessment levels so that a plurality of players may determine a respective target score based on a respective distance assessment level determined for respective ones of the plurality of players;
associating the plurality of target scores with a respective plurality of levels used to determine a competitive rating for a player;
determining a plurality of class differential ranges for each of the respective plurality of levels used to determine a competitive rating for a player;
determining a respective competitive rating for each of the plurality of players based on a respective target score determined for each of the plurality of players and a respective differential calculated for each of the plurality of players after playing the game on the course-playing route; and
assigning a tournament division to each of the plurality of players based on the respective competitive rating determined for each of the plurality of players.

64. The scoring method of claim 52, the course-playing route comprising:
a putting green having a predetermined shape and size;
a hole selected from a plurality of holes having predetermined shapes;
a predetermined irrigation layout;
a mat and tee assembly for supporting the ball on a tee box; and
a plurality of color-coded tee boxes defining a respective plurality of course-playing routes between the color-coded tee boxes and a putting green.